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NOTICES FROM THE LICK OBSERVATORY.\*

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PREPARED BY MEMBERS OF THE STAFF.

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PHOTOGRAPH OF THE SOLAR SURFACE MADE AT THE  
LICK OBSERVATORY.

[See the Frontispiece.]

The frontispiece of the present volume is a gelatine print of a portion of the solar surface copied by Mr. A. L. COLTON from a negative made by himself and Mr. C. D. PERRINE, with the thirty-six-inch equatorial, on October 19, 1896, at 10<sup>h</sup> 21<sup>m</sup> 2<sup>s</sup> A.M.

The aperture of the great telescope was reduced to eight inches, and the exposure was made by means of a quick-shutter presented to the Lick Observatory by Dr. A. BLAIR THAW, of Santa Barbara. Dr. THAW bears the expense of making the plate for this number of the *Publications*, and deserves and will receive the thanks of the Society.

EDWARD S. HOLDEN.

DISCOVERY OF COMET *g*, 1896, (PERRINE).

This comet was discovered on the evening of December 8th, at about 11:30 o'clock, in the constellation *Pisces*. At 20<sup>h</sup> 29<sup>m</sup> 48<sup>s</sup> G. M. T. its position was R. A. 0<sup>h</sup> 52<sup>m</sup> 26<sup>s</sup>.70, Decl. +6° 24' 51".9. It was moving rapidly east and more slowly south.

The comet was moderately bright,—about as bright as a star of eighth magnitude,—and in the four-inch comet-seeker appeared round, with a well-defined central condensation. In the twelve-inch equatorial, the comet was about 5' in diameter, and showed a stellar nucleus. The nebulosity surrounding the head did not appear to be symmetrical, but was more sharply defined on the south following side, while it was extended on the north preceding side in the shape of a broad fan. This fan-like extension was not traceable for any considerable distance. On subsequent

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\* Lick Astronomical Department of the University of California.

nights the air has been full of haze, generally, so that I have not been able to see the fainter nebulosity about the head.

Observations were secured on the 9th and 10th also,—on the latter date with difficulty, owing to thick haze; and from these and the one of the 8th Professor HUSSEY and I deduce the following system of parabolic elements:—

$$\begin{array}{rcl} T = \text{November } 25.6659 & & \\ \omega = 164^{\circ} 36' 5'' & & \\ \Omega = 243 \ 48 \ 40 & \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \omega \\ \Omega \end{array}} \right\} 1896.0 & \\ i = 16 \ 26 \ 29 & & \\ \log q = 0.06220 & & \end{array}$$

Residuals for the middle place (O—C)—

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \Delta\lambda' \cos \beta' & & -1'' \\ \Delta\beta' & & +3 \end{array}$$

An ephemeris from these elements shows the comet to be rapidly receding from both the Earth and Sun, and consequently growing fainter.

C. D. PERRINE.

Mt. HAMILTON, December 14, 1896.

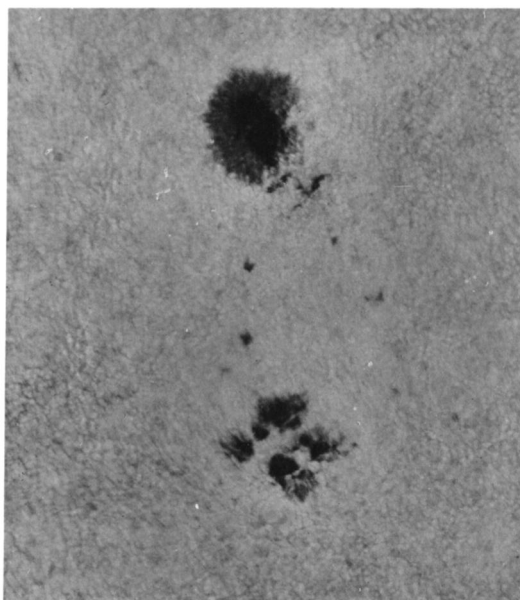
ASTRONOMISCHE GESELLSCHAFT ZONE  $-9^{\circ} 50'$  to  $-14^{\circ} 10'$ .

This zone was observed with the meridian-circle of Harvard College Observatory during the years 1888–1892. The observations have since been reduced, and the apparent place resulting from each observation can now be furnished. In most cases, the mean place has also been computed. The work of revision by additional observations of stars, accidentally omitted or unsatisfactorily observed, is now in progress, and will probably be completed during the year 1897.

ARTHUR SEARLE.

#### RELIEF-MAP OF THE LICK OBSERVATORY RESERVATION (2600 ACRES).

By the kindness of Mr. HENRY GANNETT, Chief of the Topographical Bureau of the U. S. Geological Survey, a survey was made of the region about Mt. Hamilton during the summer of 1895. A map on the scale of  $\frac{1}{45000}$ , with contours at intervals of fifty feet has been prepared. In order to exhibit the data in a more vivid way, Mr. GEORGE A. MERRILL, Principal of the California School of Mechanic Arts (the trade-school founded by Mr. LICK in San Francisco), has kindly undertaken to pre-



PHOTOGRAPH OF THE SOLAR SURFACE

Lick Observatory, October 19, 1896.  
Sun's diameter about 44 inches.